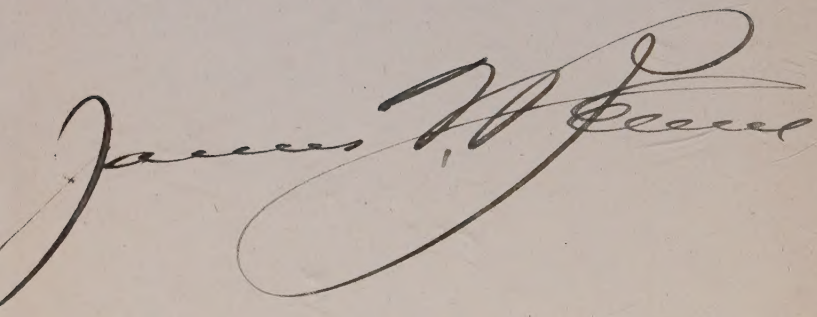
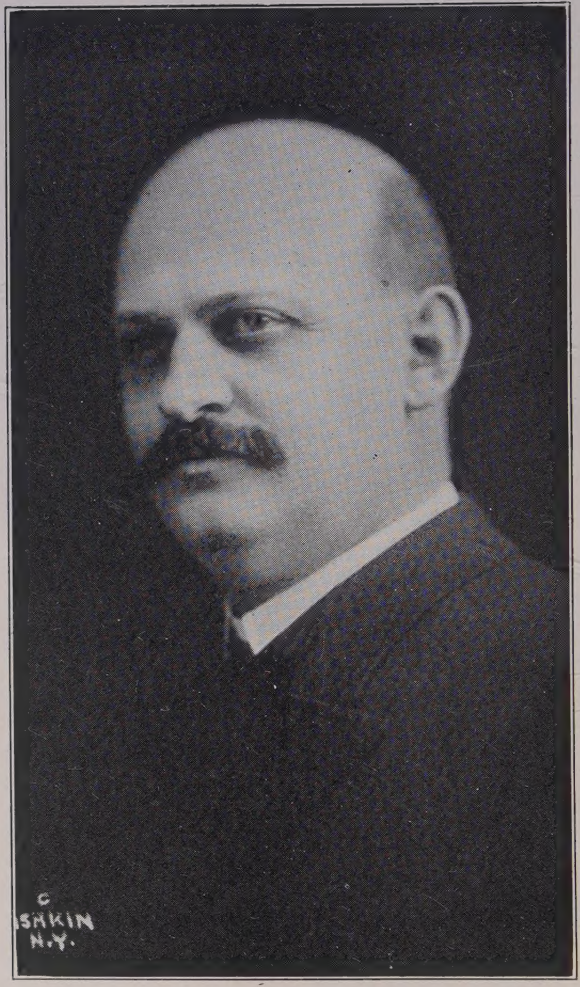
MASONS *as* MAKERS *of* AMERICA

MADISON C. PETERS

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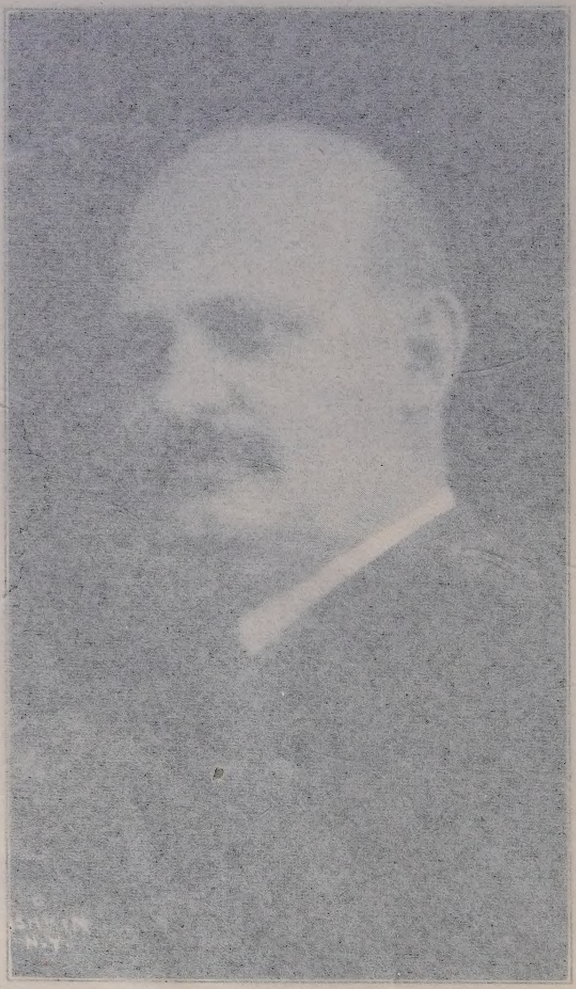
The Masons as Makers of America

The True Story of the American Revolution

By
MADISON C. PETERS

THE PATRIOTIC LEAGUE
1822 Glenwood Road
Brooklyn, N. Y.



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Knox

PREFACE

THIS lecture in its third revised edition is still incomplete. The author invites criticisms, corrections, suggestions and additional information for the next edition. He has been careful not to overstate the facts, and all statements are made in good faith, based upon the best information available by wide reading, voluminous correspondence, and personal research among the oldest records of Masonic labors in America.

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MASONS AS MAKERS OF AMERICA.

On June 5th, 1730, Daniel Coxe, of New Jersey, was appointed Provincial Grand Master of "the provinces of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania," by His Grace, Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, Grand Master of the Premier Grand Lodge of England.

The family name of the Dukes of Norfolk is Howard and all of them, from 1483 to the present day, have been staunch Roman Catholics and it is interesting to note that a Roman Catholic granted the first authority to warrant Masonic Lodges in America.

The famous Bull of excommunication issued by Pope Clement XII against Masonry dates from 1738.

On April 30, 1733, Lord Viscount Montague issued a like deputation to Henry Price, of Boston, appointing him "Provincial Grand Master of the Province of

New England, the dominion and territories thereto belonging."

On July 30, 1733, St. John's Lodge was instituted at the Bunch of Grapes Tavern in King (now State) Street, Boston and which claims to be the first Masonic Lodge organized in America.

History is obscure as to the part Coxe took in establishing our Fraternity, but there is a complete record of the acts of Price. Hence Massachusetts was acknowledged the "mother jurisdiction" for nearly one hundred and fifty years, while documents now in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania appear to give the primacy to the Keystone State, in support of which latter contention evidence is produced to show that on January 29, 1731, Coxe visited the Grand Lodge at London and that a toast was drunk in his honor as "Provincial Grand Master of North America."

According to the Pennsylvania *Gazette*, from 1732 and for several years thereafter, a list of the Grand officers was regularly printed, also that Benjamin Franklin became a Mason in 1731.

Franklin was Provincial Grand Master of Pennsylvania in 1734.

The rival Grand Lodges in England, together with those of Ireland and Scotland, chartered Lodges everywhere in the United States and Canada, until regular governing bodies existed in every State, province and territory—the Fraternity followed the Flag.

Washington's birth was contemporaneous with the introduction of Warranted Lodges in America. In 1734 Price's authority was extended, regular warrants were granted to Lodges as far south as Charleston, so that while Washington was still in his swaddling clothes, the star of American Masonry, which arose in the East, may be said to have rested over the place where the young child was.

Before Washington came to manhood a Lodge had been organized in Fredericksburg, Virginia and on November 4, 1752, he sought and found admission to this Lodge. That he paid the customary fee is shown by the record: "Received from Mr. George Washington, the sum of L. 2 and 3 s."

Washington took his first degree three months before he was twenty-one, the convential rule in English Lodges. He was supposed to be more than twenty-one years of age at the time; the question was not asked and he may not have known the regulations.

The records and seal of the Lodge are still preserved, also the Bible printed in 1688, on which he was obligated.

A year later Washington was sent by the Governor of Virginia to the French military post of Ohio, to demand in the Governor's name, who was the British King's representative in the territory of which the French had taken possession, that they should at once depart and cease to intrude on the English domain. It was a hazardous undertaking in mid-winter—encountering the hostilities of Indians and the French, sufficient to try the fortitude of the boldest adventurer.

Having served with distinction through the French and Indian Wars, Colonel Washington retired honorably from the army of Virginia and became a private citizen at Mt. Vernon, which upon the death

of his half-brother, Lawrence, had come into his possession, and which was so named in honor of a British naval officer.

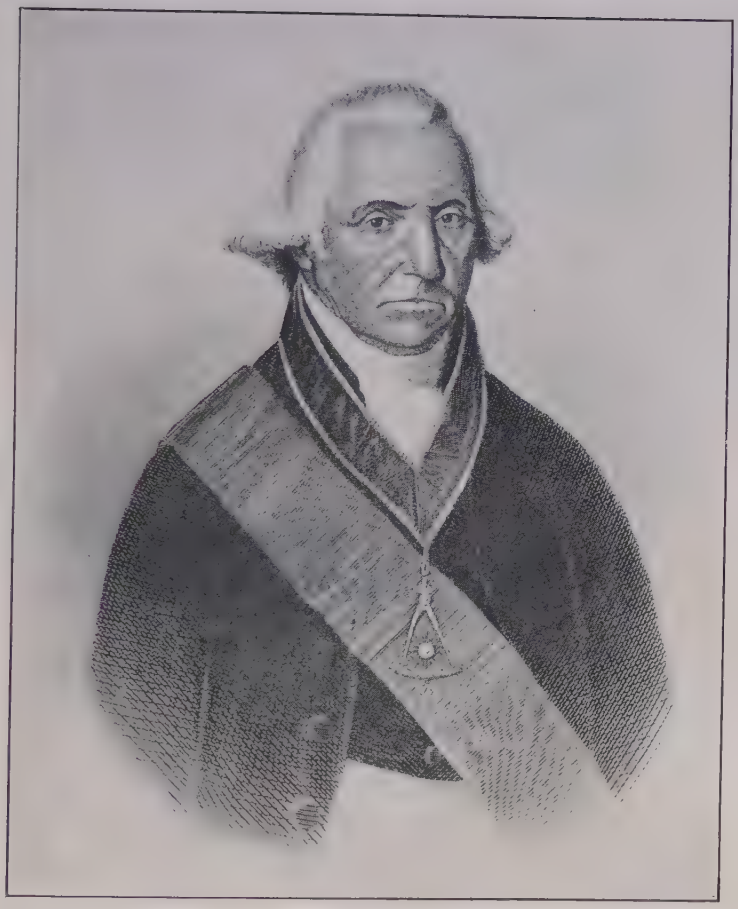
That Washington was actually a Mason is also further established by the old Charter under which Alexandria Lodge still has authority. After the necessary preamble, the instrument declares, "Know ye that we, Edmund Randolph Esq., Governor of the Commonwealth aforesaid and Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free Masons, within the same, by and with the consent of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, do hereby constitute and appoint our illustrious and well-beloved brother, George Washington, late General and Commander-in-Chief of the forces of the United States of America, charter Master."

The most distinguished Lodge in America is that at Alexandria, the members of which participated with Washington as a Master Mason in laying the corner stone of the District of Columbia, also the capitol of the United States and which had the honor of conducting the ceremonies on that bitter winter day when Washington was

laid to rest in his Mt. Vernon tomb.

Alexandria Lodge, in spite of such deplorable losses by fire, as the bier on which Washington was borne to his tomb; the crape that draped the door of Mt. Vernon where his body lay in state; his military saddle; the flag of his guard; the flag which floated on the Bon Homme Richard when she went to her death grapple with the Serapis and which John Paul Jones, a Mason, gave to the Lodge, still possesses, with the exception of Mt. Vernon, the largest collection of personal relics of Washington in existence, among which the most valuable are: Williams' portrait of Washington, in pastel, done from life, when President Washington was 62 and in Masonic regalia, unlike any other portrait of him in existence and for which the Lodge has refused $100,000; also Washington's Masonic apron and sash of silk, embroidered by the wife of Lafayette and presented for her, with a rare little box of inlay, to Washington by Lafayette, when he visited his old comrade-in-arms, in 1784.

The Masons of America should build a suitable fire-proof memorial at the spot



GEORGE WASHINGTON AS A MASON

Photographed by Mishkin, New York, from an Engraving by O'Neill, published more than fifty years ago after William's portrait made of President Washington at 62, for Alexandria Lodge.

where Washington had his Masonic home. If we fail to take pride in the deeds of our ancestors, we will never do anything in which our posterity can take pride, especially is this true when such ancestors stood in the front ranks of human progress and like our fathers fought and won the battles of the ages.

When Washington went into the Lodge of our Fraternity, he went into the one place where the American ideal of government was realized, as far as it is humanly possible for mankind to realize a lofty ideal. Masonry's practical obligations to society must make each man who conscientiously takes its responsibilities, a fine type of American citizen.

It has been claimed that Washington was made a Mason during the old French War in a British military lodge, holding a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Ireland, granted in 1752, a lodge held in the 46th British Regiment, which still exists in Canada, as "Lodge of Antiquity" and claims to have the Bible on which Washington was obligated as a Mason.

If Washington held intercourse with this Lodge, it must have been during his Northern visits to Philadelphia, New York and Boston, in 1756, as he had been made a Mason more than three years before, in American Lodge at Fredericksburg and if he was obligated on the Bible of the British Lodge, it must have been an obligation given as a test oath to him as a visiting brother, or this Lodge may have denied the authority under which he had been made a Mason, as insufficient and have required him to be healed and re-obligated, so as to entitle him to the privilege of Masonic intercourse with a Lodge under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Previous to the French War all American Lodges worked the rituals and acknowledged the authority of the Grand Lodge of England only, but during the Revolutionary War lodges holding warrants from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, Ireland and the Ancients of London were working in America.

In 1758, Washington's Lodge in Fredericksburg relinquished its authority from the Provincial Grand Master of Massa-

chusetts and obtained a warrant from Scotland.

Tradition has it that Washington and his brothers of the Mystic Tie held military Lodges during the old French war and a cave near Winchester, Virginia, where Washington had his headquarters, to this day is called, Washington's Masonic Cave, divided into several apartments, one called Lodge Room and there it is claimed communications were held.

At twenty-six Washington entered the Colonial Assembly. He was complimented with a vote of thanks for his military services and when he arose to acknowledge and to thank the Assembly he blushed to confusion and so stuttered and stammered that he was unable to say one word distinctly. The Speaker relieved him of his mbarrassing position, saying with a smile: 'Sit down, Mr. Washington, your modesty i equal to your valor and that surpasses te power of any language I possess."

At twenty-seven he married the beautift widow, Martha Custis, who in addition toan enormous estate, had $225,000 in cash —ome fortune in those days of homespun anl honesty.

During Washington's fifteen years of happy domestic life at Mt. Vernon, living the life of a Virginia gentleman-farmer, we have no record of his Masonic life, the devastations of war leaving few memorials of Masonic labors.

That the leaders in the great work of launching the new nation were the foremost men in the Masonic Fraternity, is the proposition we shall endeavor to establish.

The leader of the Colonists, in their public assemblies, who first clearly foresaw the Revolution, who did most in the days before 1775 to determine its character and direct its course, who suggested the first Congress at New York, which prepared the way for a Continental Congress ten years later and at length for the union and confederacy of the Colonies, the patriarch of liberty, the greatest leader in the revolt from England, "The Father of the American Revolution," Samuel Adams, was a Mason.

James Otis, whose pamphlets were the most effective presentations of the arguments against the arbitrary measures of the British ministry, who from 1761 to 1769

was the pre-eminent leader of thought in the discussion and development of opinion which preceded the war, hailed from the Barnstable Lodge.

Patrick Henry, the first Republican Governor of Virginia, whose eloquence, unrivalled in its influence, was one of the causes for independence and one of the most striking characteristics in the contest for freedom, Patrick Henry, the orator of the Revolution, was a Mason.

Paul Revere, whose famous mid-night ride and cry of alarm caused the Middlesex farmers to prepare for the Battle of Lexington, the first conflict of the war for independence, was at one time Grand Master of Masons of Massachusetts.

Robert Newman, the patriot who hung the signal lantern in the old North Church tower, April 8, 1775, was a Mason.

William Daws, another Mason, elected by General Joseph Warren, performed the same errand as Revere across the country from Roxbury.

The preliminary meeting of the Boston Tea Party was held around a chowder supper at the home of Masons—the Bradlee

brothers, on Hollis and Tremont Streets and the mother of that party was Sarah Bradlee, who arranged the disguises the day before and kept the water boiling, so that the men upon their return from Griffin's Wharf might wash off the red stains and revert to "white Christians."

The object of the Boston patriots was not merely to commit the Colony to open disobedience of English orders, but have some issue to unite upon with the other colonies.

On that historic night, December 16, 1773, 7,000 people gathered in and about Old South Church, listening to such Masonic orators as Samuel Adams, Joseph Warren, Josiah Quincy and several other leaders. This meeting unanimously resolved that the tea in the harbor should not be permitted to land. Forty or fifty men disguised as Indians had gathered in the back room of a printing office near by, waiting for the agreed signal by Samuel Adams, when he excalimed: "This meeting can do nothing more to save the country," and a shout from the porch was answered by a war-whoop from the Mohawks, who started

a rush for the wharf, followed by a thousand or so of others, who seemed to come from every direction. Who were these "Mohawks," Sons of Liberty, in paint and gear? Free Masons, members of St. Andrew's Lodge, led by the Junior Warden, Paul Revere. About 100 men boarded the three ships and for three hours worked steadily with their hatchets and in that time 342 chests of tea, valued at $90,000 went over into the docks—the Boston Tea Party was a Masonic night out.

The convention which met at Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, May 20, 1775, was composed mostly of Masons, north of Ireland Presbyterians, Scotchmen, who went to Ireland to be born. While the convention was in session the news of the fight at Lexington and Concord reached Charlotte and on May 31, that body adopted what is known as the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, which was in its general tenor that of the Declaration of Independence, many of the phrases being word for word as they appear in that document.

The Continental Congress, so named to

distinguish it from a Provincial Assembly, representing all the thirteen Colonies, was at first proposed by New York for the purpose of united action in resisting the aggressions of the British Government. The plan came from Pennsylvania, the selection of the time and place for the first meeting was by courtesy accorded to Massachusetts, the severest sufferer.

The Massachusetts Assembly fixed upon September 1, 1774, the first Congress convening in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, continuing in session eight weeks.

Later the sessions were held in the State House, known to history as Independence Hall, erected in the years of 1729 to 1734, at a cost of $28,000, at the time considered an extravagant expenditure for a public building.

The Continental Congress, the sessions of which extended through ten years, comprised in all about 350 members, of whom 118 were college graduates—28 from Princeton, 23 from Harvard, 23 from Yale, 11 from William and Mary, 8 from the University of Pennsylvania, 4 from Columbia, 1 from Brown, 1 from Rutgers, while

21 were educated abroad. Of the 56 delegates who signed the Declaration of Independence 28 were college graduates.

The first Continental Congress was composed largely of Masons—the cause for which they enlisted required that they hang together, or they might have hung separately.

On motion of George Washington, unquestionably the greatest man on that floor, Peyton Randolph, Past Grand Master of Masons of Virginia, was selected to preside over its deliberations.

Randolph was called on to preside over the second session, which convened May 10, 1775, during which he died. He was buried with Masonic honors.

Randolph was succeeded by another Mason—John Hancock, of Massachusetts. Hancock was left by his uncle, $250,000—then the largest estate in New England. A signature of the Declaration would be regarded in England as treason and expose any man to the halter or the block. John Hancock's signature was so bold, that, as he put it: "The King of England could read it without spectacles."

The only signature in that immortal document which exhibited a trembling hand is that of Stephen Hopkins, who had been afflicted with the palsy, which compelled him, when he wrote, to guide his right hand with his left.

Richard Henry Lee, a Virginia Mason, was the author of the resolutions as to the Independence which preceded the fuller Declaration. On June 7, 1776, Lee introduced in Congress, the proposition: "That these United Colonies are and of right should be free and independent states, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown and that all political connection between them and the State of Britain is and ought to be totally dissolved."

The motion thus introduced by Lee, he followed by one of the most luminous and eloquent speeches ever delivered by any man on the floor of any Congress. The resolution was debated on the 8th and 10th of June and then postponed for action until Monday, July 1, and that no time should be lost it was resolved to prepare a Declaration to the effect of the resolution.

The day on which this resolution was taken, Lee was unexpectedly summoned to attend upon his family in Virginia. As a mover of the original resolution for Independence, it would, according to parliamentary usage, have developed upon Lee to prepare a Declaration and as chairman to have furnished that important document. The committee named consisted of Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benajmin Franklin, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston.

Thomas Jefferson, the persistent champion of national freedom and individual liberty, was called as chairman. If Thomas Jefferson was a Mason, he was raised in France.

John Adams, a Mason, named next to Jefferson, upon all occasions, with commanding eloquence, stood forth openly in opposition to the injustice of Great Britain. He was the most strenuous advocate of the Declaration—the pillar of its support on the floor of Congress. He negotiated the "Treaty of Peace," and the "Treaty of Commerce" with Great Britain and was at the head of a Commission in Paris, with

Franklin and Jefferson as co-agitators, to negotiate commercial treaties with different foreign nations.

Benjamin Franklin, the philosopher of the Revolution, one of the most trusted leaders of the Young Republic, was the third member of the Committee. Whether in Congress, or as a member of the Convention for framing the Constitution of the United States, or as Plenipotentiary to foreign courts, his work was not equalled by any man as a resourceful maker of the Republic. Benjamin Franklin at 28 years of age published the first Masonic book in America.

The fourth member of that Committee was also a Mason—Roger Sherman, of Connecticut. He was also a member of the General Convention of the States for forming a new Constitution.

A Mason, Robert R. Livingston, who with the assistance of his brother Mason, James Monroe, afterwards negotiated the Louisiana purchase, the fifth member of the Committee of Congress to prepare the Declaration, was not present when the actual signing took place on August 2.

The Declaration was signed by John Hancock, July 4, for and behalf of the members of Congress. It was attested by Charles Thompson, the Secretary.

On July 19 Congress voted that the Declaration should be engrossed on parchment and that it should then be signed by every member of the Congress and on August 2, the Declaration, engrossed under this order, was signed by fifty members of Congress. Afterwards six more added their names. Seven who had been members on the 4th of July never signed.

Jefferson is authority for the statement that the signing was hastened by the presence of swarms of flies from a stable near-by, which assailed the knee-breeched and silk-stockinged legs of the members.

Twenty-six of the signers were lawyers, fourteen farmers, nine merchants, four physicians, and one a minister, though three others had been educated for that profession. Three lived to be over 90 years of age, ten others over 80, with an average for all of 62.

John Witherspoon, of Princeton, the voice of John Knox in Independence Hall,

whose last appeal before the vote was taken, won the day for the Declaration—John Witherspoon was a Mason.

In putting the vote on the Declaration it was agreed to begin with the northwest column, Josiah Bartlett, a New Hampshire Mason, therefore had the honor of being called upon for an expression of his opinion and of first giving his vote in favor of the resolution.

Robert Treat Paine, Chairman of the Committee to introduce the manufacture of salt-peter, one of the constituents of gunpowder, and Elbridge Gerry, Chairman of the Committee of the Treasury in Congress, signers from the Old Bay State, were Masons.

Thomas McKean, a Mason, carried Delaware's vote in Congress in favor of Independence. George Reed, though he afterwards signed the Declaration, voted against the resolution, but when the final issue of the question was postponed until the next day, McKean sent word to Caesar Rodney, a Mason, who rode eighty miles on horseback that night and with McKean won Delaware for Independence.

Lewis Morris, whose estate at Morrissinia, New York, was in the hands of the enemy at the time he signed the Declaration, who was sent West to detach the Indians from the British, one of the boldest promoters of the Revolution, was a Mason.

Edward Rutledge, the most eloquent man in the Continental Congress, though only twenty-five years old when first called to serve in National Council, a man of unquestioned courage as a soldier during the trying times when the British were ravishing the Carolinas, was a Mason.

How many of the fifty-six Sons of Liberty who signed the Declaration were Masons, is hard to say, as many of the Grand Lodges were not organized until after the Revolution, records of Lodges were poorly kept, carrying often only the names of officers and many of the records were destroyed during the war. It is, however, safe to say that upwards of fifty signers were Masons, some students make the claim that all were Masons, except Charles Carroll, the only Roman Catholic signer.

There were only about 20,000 Catholics

in the Colonies at the time of the Revolution, of whom three-fourths lived in Maryland.

The Maryland delegation had been instructed to refuse their assent to the Declaration, but through the influence of Charles Carroll, procured a new set of ininstructions which won over the vote of Maryland in favor of Indepednence. On June 28, the same day on which this question was decided by Congress in favor, Carroll was elected a delegate, taking his seat July 18, 1776, so that he was not a member of the Congress at the time the question was settled. But to Carroll belongs the honor of contributing to the Declaration by assisting in procuring the withdrawal of prohibitory instructions and the adoption of a new set by which Maryland delegates found themselves authorized to vote for Independence.

Few men had more at stake should the British armies prove victorious than Carroll, being along with Washington and Hancock, the richest man in the Colonies.

When someone said to Carroll that there were several Charles Carrolls in Maryland,

when the hanging took place, the British would not know which one to hang, he wrote Charles Carroll of Carrollton.

The contest with the mother country had already begun at Lexington and Concord. Washington was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Army at 44 years of age, executing his will which he enclosed in an affectionate letter to his wife, in which he confessed his deep reluctance to surrender the joys of home and accepting the place as thrust upon him, he gave himself body and soul to his great task, refusing all payment for his services, advancing from his private purse $64,000 to pay his daily expenses while leading our armies.

Washington could well afford that luxury, but how many rich men of to-day avail themselves of the opportunity to indulge in this kind of extravagance, neglecting their own business for the public benefit and risking all for the common good?

The British troops, under General Howe, held Boston and the very day Washington received his commission, the battle of Bunker Hill was fought and in the contest of June 17, 1775, on the celebrated heights

of Charlestown, fell General Joseph Warren, Grand Master of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge, the first grand offering of American Masonry on the altar of liberty and the ground floor of her temple was blood-stained at its Eastern Gate.

Washington hastened to Cambridge and entered on the duties of his station, July 1, 1775. He found himself at the head of 14,500 men, the officers, with few exceptions, without experience and the soldiers without discipline, variously armed, without cannon, with a few bayonets, but a small supply of powder, and one of Washington's first orders was to call upon the inhabitants to send to Headquarters, instantly, every bit of lead or pewter at their disposal. Woman's part in the Revolution is well illustrated by Mary, the courageous wife of Captain Draper, a thriving farmer of Dedham, Massachusetts. She not only fed hundreds of soldiers passing her home to Boston, but having gotten her husband ready, with her own hands bound knapsacks and a blanket to her sixteen year old boy's shoulders and then turned to her large stock of pewter, the gift of a

sainted mother and in a moment her pans and platters were ready for freedom's call. Her husband had bought a mould for casting bullets to supply himself and his son, with the means of defense, for any emergency and soon this heroic wife of a Masonic patriot, turned her pewter, scoured to the brightest of silver, into bullets for her country's defense.

Washington's Masonic Major-Generals

Major-General Henry Knox, one of the chief pillars in the temple of American Liberty, Commander of the Artillery, a position he won at twenty-five years of age, by his transportation of heavy cannon over the miserable roads between Boston and Canada, guns which boomed on Dorchester Heights and before which the British retired, guns he kept thundering in the ears of freedom till Independence was won.

At Trenton, Knox's loud voice was heard above the roar of the storm, guiding the distracted troops across the Deleware. At Princeton his guns sent havoc through the English regiments. At Brandywine they had terrible effect. He made Monmouth smoke and thunder and with such

skill and rapidity did he work his heavy pieces that the British were amazed, while at Yorktown, the Boston book-seller's artillery practice did not suffer side by side with that of the French artillerists.

Knox, of all other Generals stood first in Washington's affection, bestowing upon him the love and confidence of a brother. In every action where Washington appeared in person Knox attended him. At every Council of war he bore a part, moved with him over every battle field and finally wept on Washington's neck in the farewell scene in Faunce's Tavern, when Washington clasped him in his arms and eyes, unaccustomed to weep, flowed in tears, lips, that in the carnage of strife seemed iron, quivered with emotion—Knox, the closest friend of Washington, was a Mason.

When fourteen years of age Washington secured a commission as midshipman in the British navy. When all the preparations had been made for his departure, unable to persuade him that his choice was unwise, his mother forbade his going. He surrendered his commission and returned

to his mathematics in preparation for his career as a civil engineer.

The next order of goods that Mary, the mother of Washington, sent to England, contained the item, "one good penknife." This she presented to George as a reward for his obedience and counselled him: "Always obey your superiors."

He carried the pocket-knife constantly and years later told its history to General Knox. At Valley Forge, surrounded by his ragged and half-starving troopers, their bare feet cut by the frozen ground till one could track them by their blood, so unprotected that they slept sitting around their fires, covering themselves with logs, in a fit of despair and disgust at the divided and grumbling Congress, the selfish and suspicious legislatures of the separate States, thwarting his plans and rendering powerles his efforts, Washington wrote his resignation as Commander-in-Chief and summoning his staff read the resignation to them.

General Knox reminded him of the knife and his mother's words: "Always obey your superiors." "You," continued his

Masonic brother, "were commanded to lead this army and no one has ordered you to cease leading it. Think it over." Half an hour later Washington tore up his resignation.

Lafayette, rolling in riches, basking in the sunshine of royal favor, sent up from the Tuilleries of Paris his shout for us and our cause, lavishing his wealth on our naked and starving soldiers, winding himself in child-like love around the heart of Washington, who in turn loved him as a son, this patriot of two hemispheres was made a Mason by Washington himself at the Old Freeman's Tavern, on the Green, at Morristown, New Jersey, in what was then Military Lodge No. 19, now Montgomery Lodge of Philadelphia. And when, in after years, Lafayette returned to our land, the best token he could find of his grateful recollection to convey to his comrade-in-arms, was the Mason's scarf and Mason's apron already referred to and long treasured and worn by Washington.

General Nathaniel Greene, the Rhode Island Fighting Quaker, next to Washington was the ablest commander in the Revo-

lutionary army. He loved Washington next to his country, an affection which was returned. Gates was appointed to the command of the Southern army without Washington's knowledge or consent. Congress, mortified at the disgrace of its favorite leader, referred the matter to Washington where it belonged in the first place. Washington placed Greene over the wrecked army, planned with him that campaign which saved the South and crowned Greene, a Mason, with unfading laurels.

Baron von Steuben, aid de-camp to the King of Prussia, who had learned the art of war under Frederick, the greatest General in Europe, whose services were sought by the King of Sardinia and also by the Emperor of Austria, high in honor and rank, came to share our struggles and our sufferings. He was assigned at once to the main army at Valley Forge. His ability as an organizer was immediately recognized by Washington, who recommended his appointment as Inspector-General of the entire army.

Not only had we hardly any cavalry, but slender artillery, while most of the guns

were unfit for use. The troops were no better than a ragged horde. They could not manipulate the simplest manuevers. All discipline was gone. Steuben declared that no European army could have been kept together under such sufferings. He cursed the troops till all his epithets, of which he was past master, were exhausted, when he called on his aids to swear in his stead, but with all the sympathies of his noble nature aroused in our behalf, he instructed both officers and men, reaching a perfection in discipline which surprised the French officers who frequently visited him. When astonishment was expressed that so little noise was heard, the Baron exclaimed: "Noise, I do not know where the noise should come from, when my Brigadiers dare not open their mouths, but to repeat my orders." He opened the eyes of the officers and the Government at once. He effected a complete revolution in the army and from that time on our regulars were never beaten in a fair fight.

At the request of Washington and the Board of War he wrote a manual for the army, containing rules of discipline and

inspection, compiled on his knowledge and remembrance of the Prussian system—a book he first wrote in French and afterwards had it translated, which was adopted by Congress and approved by Washington.

As Major-General of the forces at Yorktown, Von Steuben received the first offer of capitulation from Lord Cornwallis—Fredrich Wilhelm August Heinrich Ferdinand, Baron von Steuben, was a New York State Mason.

Major-General DeKalb, the generous stranger, though a German by birth, had long served in France and came here as a French officer. His cautious course at Camden was changed by Gates and he fell on the ill-fated field he struggled so nobly to win. DeKalb, was a Mason.

That hardy son of South Carolina, who loved his country and liberty above his life, the cool, chivalrous, decided, dogged, exalted, pure, patriotic, stubborn, watchful Major-General William Moultrie,—was a Mason.

Major-General Stirling, who opened the battle of Long Island, who was with Washington at Brandywine, commanded the re-

serve at Germantown, led one of the divisions under Washington at Monmouth, who when everything was trembling in the balance, brought up the artillery at a full gallop, serving his guns with a skill that excited the suprise of the British—Stirling was a Mason.

Major-General Israel Putnam, who, Cincinnatus-like, was plowing when the news of Lexington reached him, at once turned loose the oxen and without bidding his family good-bye rode to Cambridge and at Bunker Hill and during Washington's retreat through New Jersey showed himself one of the bravest of the patriotic leaders, was a Mason.

Major-General John Sullivan, who with a company of citizens from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, surprised Fort Wililam and Mary, at New Castle, carried off one hundred barrels of gun powder and fifteen pieces of artillery it contained, the first open act of hostility committed by a military force against the Royal Government, which acquisitions of war were used six months later on Bunker Hill, this first premeditated act of the war, an exploit which

had war in sight, this first blow for independence, was struck by a Mason—General John Sullivan.

This same General John Sullivan, who had the honor of leading one of the columns across the ice-filled Deleware and through that storm of sleet and snow charged home on the Hessians and shouted victory, who fought bravely with the army at Princeton and faithfully executed the expedition against the Indians along the lakes and rivers of the North, the war measure planned and approved by Washington, was the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire.

Major-General Benjamin Lincoln was appointed to receive the sword of Cornwallis, an honor conferred by the ever thoughtful Washington, who took this opportunity to heal Lincoln's feelings when he was compelled at Charleston to surrender his sword to Clinton, the English Commander—Lincoln was a Mason.

Major-General St. Clair, who was with Wolfe in that bold midnight march up on the heights of Quebec, carried a banner and heard the victorious shout which re-

called for a moment the departing spirit of Wolfe—St. Clair, the only general officer in the army who understood perfectly the topography of the country between Trenton and Princeton and was relied on chiefly by Washington in the dispositions made for the battle—St. Clair was a Mason.

Major-General Richard Montgomery, who fell on the disastrous field of Quebec, at 39, who, had he lived, would have stood first among our military leaders—the brave Montgomery was a Mason.

Major-General Philip Livingston, who devised the ways and means to supply the Colonies with ammunition, established military stores and encouraged the manufacture of gunpowder, was a Mason.

Major-General James Clinton, who effected a junction with Sullivan at Tioga and accompanied him on that fearful expedition in the valley of Genesee, accompanied Washington and the allied army to Yorktown, who was present at the evacuation of New York by the British and formed one of that immortal group of officers of whom Washington took his affectionate farewell and his brother, George Clinton,

for eighteen successive years Governor of New York and twice Vice-President of the United States, were both Masons.

Major-General Lachlan M'Intosh, in whom Washington confided to the extent of placing him far out in the line, keeping a watchful eye on General Howe's superior forces in Philadelphia, was a Mason.

Major-General David Worcester of Connecticut, a brigadier-general in the English service, who, when the war of the Revolution broke out, though sixty-six, drew his sword against the usurpations of England, just as he had drawn his sword against the invasion of Spain and France, who in the British attack upon Danbury, led on the militia and while encouraging his men in the volleys before which they recoiled, was mortally wounded—the gallant Worcester, whose last words were that he believed America would gain her freedom, was a Mason.

General Anthony Wayne, the fierceness of whose charge with which he stormed through the fight at Stony Point, made him known to history as "Mad Anthony," a name originally given him by a witless fel-

low in the camp, who used to make a circuit when he came near Wayne, muttering to himself, "Mad Anthony," "Mad Anthony," a sobriquet so characteristic of Wayne, that the troops universally adopted it. Wayne's grave at Stony Point was dedicated by the Grand Lodge.

"Light House Harry" Lee, whose capture of the British post at Paulus Hook, New Jersey, one of the most brilliant exploits of the Revolution, who out-fought Tarleton at Guilford Court House, who, with Marion, compelled Rawdon to abandon Camden, who took Augusta, captured Rawdon's rear-guard at Eutaw Springs, who was sent by Washington with 15,000 troops to suppress the "Whisky Insurrection" in Western Pennsylvania, and in whose funeral oration upon Washington pronounced before both houses of Congress, occurs the since famous phrase, "First in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his country men"—Major-General Henry Lee, was a Mason.

Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, Major-General, Washington's aid-de-camp, in which capacity he was present at the battles

of Brandywine and Germantown, to whom Washington offered a place on the Supreme Court Bench, then the post of Secretary of War, as the successor of General Knox, afterwards that of Secretary of State, in succession to Edmund Randolph, member of the assembly that formed the Constitution of the United States, ambassador to France on the difficult mission of securing peace with our ancient ally, which failed in its first purpose, because of the dishonorable terms proposed, in answer to which the indignant Carolinian declared that his country would give: "Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute," and his equally remarkable brother, Thomas Pinckney, who was sent by President Washington as the first minister to England, 1792-96 and in 1794 to Spain, where he negotiated the important treaty of San Ildefenso, which secured to the United States the Florida boundary and the free navigation of the Mississippi—both brothers, the confidential friends of Washington, wore the lambskin.

Lafayette has been quoted as saying that Washington never gave his confidence to

any of his generals unless he knew them to be Masons and his experiences justified his suspicions of his non-Masonic generals—Lee, the traitor of Monmouth; the ambitious, selfish, mean and contemptible Gates, who constantly plotted to undermine and supplant Washington; Thomas Conway, the arrogant, boastful adventurer, whose strange promotion aroused Washington's ire and who to injure Washington descended even to anonymous letters, and Thomas Miflin, whose slackness in the performance of his duty caused his dismissal from the inspector-generalship of the army, and who took part in the "Conway Cabal," —Conway, Gates and Miflin formed a faction in Congress which came near ruining the cause of freedom—four Major-Generals of Washington were not Masons.

Then Benedict Arnold was a Mason—yes—he was raised in Hiram Lodge, New Haven, Connecticut, regularly attended Solomon's Lodge, No. 6 Poughkeepsie, New York and in the minutes of that Lodge, May 16, 1781, it was ordered that his name be obliterated from the minutes and his name was cut out.

The Mason believes in a square deal, a thing Arnold never got.

Washington sent Arnold through the forests against Quebec and Arnold's march from Cambridge, through sleet storms, frozen lakes and dense forests, marching *after* an enemy, scaling the heights to the plains of Abraham, daring the garrison of thrice his numbers to come out and fight, was in many respects more wonderful than Napoleon's flight from Moscow, Julian's retreat across the desert or Suvarov's over the Alps, fleeing *before* an enemy. That expedition illustrated the amazing energy of Arnold and the hardiness of his men.

The garrison refused to fight, reinforcements from Carleton compelled Arnold to fall back, but on the arrival of Montgomery, the two of them made an assault, in which Montgomery was killed and Arnold's leg was shattered, but he still blockaded the place till relieved in April. Quebec won Arnold a brigadier-generalship.

The first battle between the American and British fleets and one of the most obstinate naval battles in our history, was fought by Arnold near Valcour Island, off

Plattsburg. Though outnumbered, he escaped with most of his boats and all of his men, driving the British to Montreal, while the Americans sent 3,000 men for the battles of Trenton and Princeton.

About this time occured an event that first made Arnold speak bitterly of his country—Congress created five new major-generals, all his juniors in rank and all of whom together had not a tithe of his abilities or achievements. Arnold had the right to be enraged. Under a similar injustice Stark resigned and Sullivan threatened to do so. Washington was astounded and at once wrote Arnold begging him not to do anything hasty, assuring him that there must be some mistake. At Washington's request Arnold withheld his resignation, the Commander-in-Chief promising that the wrong should be righted. Washington demanded an explanation from Congress, which was good for nothing—that Connecticut had two Major-Generals already. Arnold contented himself with asking to be made ranking officer as before and offered to serve under his juniors for the present.

In Tyron's invasion of Connecticut Arnold's splendid deeds forced Congress for very shame to give a Major-Generalship, but still left him at the foot. Arnold's magnanimity was thrown away on Congress. He postponed still farther his resignation—General Schuyler refusing his permission to resign, for like Washington he appreciated his services and Schuyler's appeal to Arnold's patriotism gained his consent to stay till immediate danger was over. Meanwhile came the news of the defeat and death of Herkimer at Oriskany and at Washington's request Congress sent Arnold to the rescue.

At Saratoga, Gates never once rode on the field of battle. The battle of September 19th, was fought, with the exception of Morgan's riflemen, by Arnold's division alone. In this crisis the country owed its salvation to Arnold.

In the second battle of Saratoga, October 7, to crown his glaring injustice and contemptible meanness, Gates took Arnold's division away from him and gave it to Lincoln, so that the bravest and most successful general of the army would have

been without a command had he not taken it without official right. Arnold's fearful, frenzied daring infused new spirit into the troops, they followed him like madmen, carrying everything before them and routed Burgoyne's army—that victory which shattered Arnold's leg, the same that was broken at Quebec, gained for the United States the French alliance and ultimately the surrender at Yorktown.

Congress, that winter, grudgingly gave Arnold his rank and Washington presented him with a sword and epaulettes.

In his Canadian expeditions and elsewhere Arnold used his own money freely and pledged his credit repeatedly, to keep the movements from collapse. His claims were large. Congress was suspicious and dilatory. Money was hard to get from that body. The Masons who controlled the first Congresses were now in the field and elsewhere active in the service of the country; politicians sat in Congress, a Congress so faction-ridden and incompetent, that many of the best patriots thought that the future of independence most calamitous even if it could be obtained.

While in command of Philadelphia Arnold became so involved in difficulties with the President and Council of Philadelphia that charges were sent to Congress and when they were finally sustained that he had acted imprudently, he was sentenced to be reprimanded. Washington reluctantly and very gently fulfilled the odious task forced upon him. Such was Washington's faith in Arnold at this time that he offered him the post of honor in the next campaign. But Arnold, who had confidently expected absolute acquittal, was so inflamed with anger, that even Washington's reprimand, couched almost in words of praise, could not subdue him, and now for the first time definitely determined to betray his country. Injustice turned to hatred, revenge triumphed over patriotism. Arnold, unable to endure the affront any longer, then and there formed the disgraceful design of deserting to the ranks of the enemy.

With this crime in view he sought and obtained from Washington in August, 1780, command of West Point, the key to the Hudson River Valley. He put himself in

communication with Sir Henry Clinton, the British commander, who to perfect the details of the plot, sent his adjutant-general, Major John Andre, to negotiate with Arnold near Stony Point on the night of September 21. Two days later, while returning by land, Andre, with incriminating papers, was captured and the officer to whom he was entrusted unsuspectingly sent information of his capture to Arnold, who was thus enabled to escape to the British lines. He was commissioned a Brigadier-General in the British army and received $31,375 in compensation for his property losses.

Upon Congress must be fixed the responsibility for the undoing of a man who showed a magnaminity and patriotism unsurpassed by any officer in the army. Arnold's best successes only brought down upon him fresh insults. He was surrounded by powerful enemies, he became desperate and reckless. Arnold was keenly sensitive, he was unprincipled, he had an unbridled tongue, he fiercely denounced men and measures which did not suit him, he lived extravagantly, entertained lavishly, he

needed the money justly due him and the man who four years before sent $500 for the destitute Mason's widow and five orphan children of General Joseph Warren, who fell on Bunker Hill, suddenly became a lost man. Every noble feeling died at once in his bosom.

If Washington, Schuyler and other patriots had only allowed Arnold to retire from the army, when he insisted on doing so, his countrymen would in time have redressed his wrongs and given him that place in their affections his splendid services merited.

One hundred and fifteen years ago in a London garrett lay Benedict Arnold, dying —half dressed—his legs concealed in long military boots. The minister of religion sat by his side, when suddenly the dying man arose, tottered along the floor, threw open a valise, drew thence a faded coat of blue, faced with silver and the wreck of a battle flag. The coat was spotted with his own blood, the coat with a bullet hole pierced at Quebec, the coat he wore when he planted the banner of the stars on Ticonderoga and with the minister's help he

put on that coat of blue, and while he stood in that worm-eaten coat of blue and silver, the good minister spoke to him of that faith which pierces the clouds of human guilt and walls them back from the face of God. There, that strange man stood, erect, with the death chill on his brow. "Faith," he cried, "Faith! Can it give me back my honor?" He looked over the waves and in imagination heard George Washington telling to his comrades the thrilling story of the eight years' war; while the death watch beats, the faded flag is unfurled, the blue banner gleaming with thirteen stars; the parchment unrolled is a Colonel's Commission in the Continental Army, addressed to Benedict Arnold, and there, unwept, unhonored and unsung, in all the bitterness of desolation, the patriot and traitor gave back his spirit to God, while the corpse was clad in the uniform of a Continental soldier.

Washington's Brigadiers

All the Brigadier-Generals of Washington were Masons, except Stephen Moylan, who with the adventurous Conway were the only Roman Catholic Generals in the

Revolution. But Moylan, who was one of the first to respond to the call of arms after Lexington and was engaged in nearly all the principal battles, the friend of Washington, does not deserve to be named in the same breath with Conway. He was the first President of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Philadelphia, which society was then composed largely of Protestants, who showed their liberal spirit by choosing the highly respected Moylan their official head.

General Nicholas Herkimer, the hero of Oriskany, whose name is inseparably linked with a memorable epoch in the Nation's life, hailed from St. Patrick's Lodge Johnstown, New York. No battle of the Revolution was so essential to the success of the Continental forces as Oriskany, where the British troops and the Indians were fought hand to hand, with rifle and knife, by Herkimer and his invincible Germans, defeating the plan of the foe by preventing the junction of the columns commanded by Burgoyne and St. Leger, the consequent devastation of the Hudson Valley and the possible failure of American Independence. Students of history, in its

far reaching ultimate results, have freely expressed the opinion that had there been no Oriskany, with its matchless bravery, there would have been no Saratoga, no Trenton and no Yorktown. Herkimer fell in that battle, the victory of which was the dawn of that freedom we now enjoy.

General John Stark, the hero of Bennington, was a Mason.

General Francis Marion, who seemed omnipresent to the terror-stricken loyalists, who to tireless vigilance added a perseverance nothing could shake, whose bravery never deserted him and whose prudence was unmarred by a rash act—Marion was a Mason.

General John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg, the preacher-patriot, who turned soldier at Washington's request, in his last sermon at Woodstock, Virginia, exclaimed: "There is a time for all things—a time to preach and a time to fight—and now is the time to fight," stripped off his gown, stood dressed in a Colonel's uniform, called for recruits and enrolled about 300 of his parishioners —Muhlenberg was a Mason.

Koscioszko and Pulaski, the Polish pa-

triots, who unsheathed their swords for American freedom, were Masons.

It was owing to the far-reaching influence of General Whipple, who commanded a brigade at Stillwater and Saratoga, that New Hampshire wheeled into the ranks with Massachusetts and Virginia for Independence.

William R. Davie, Governor of North Carolina and Grand Master of Masons in that State, served as Commissionary-General under Greene was a Mason.

General Richard Caswell, Governor of North Carolina and Grand Master of Masons in that State, led the troops of North Carolina in the battle of Camden.

General Mordecai Gist, who formed the first military organization in Maryland for the defense of American liberty and General Smallwood, names coupled, since they together won imperishable glory in the battle of Camden and also fought side by side in the battle of Long Island,—Gist and Smallwood were Masons.

General Rufus Putnam, Surveyor General of the United States, upon whose good judgment Washington relied so confidently

that he often consulted this self-taught engineer before he decided on the position of his forces, was a member of the American Union Lodge—the first Lodge organized by the Continental Army, with Liberty as its key-note and Union as its watchword. Putnam became the first Grand Master of Masons of Ohio.

General Joseph Reed, who was offered $50,000 and the best post in the British government if he would exert his influence to settle the dispute, indignantly replied: "I am not worth purchasing; but such as I am the King of England is not rich enough to do it"—Reed was a Mason.

General Cadwallader, the devoted friend of Washington, who fought a duel with Conway to resent his aspersions upon his chief—Cadwallader, who served with Washington at Princeon, Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth, was a Mason.

General James Jackson, Governor of Georgia, Grand Master of Masons of that State, before he was thirty, was the right arm of his Masonic brother, General Anthony Wayne, during the evacuation of Atlanta by the British in 1782.

With Washington stood such Masonic brothers not already mentioned, as Generals Sumter, Pickens, Poor, Van Cortlandt, Mercer, Williams, Woodhull and William Washington.

Ethan Allen, whose successful surprise of Ticonderoga filled the country with his praise, was a Mason, as was Cochran, Captain of Allen's "Green Mountain Boys."

Colonel William Barton, who captured General Prescott, was a Rhode Island Mason.

Henderson, the hero of Harlem Heights, captured by the British, was paroled by General Howe, on the interposition of a Masonic brother.

General Nelson, who fired the first cannon in the last battle of the Revolution, was a Mason. When Cornwallis entered the town he made General Nelson's mansion his home. The gunners hesitating to fire on the home of Nelson, he stepped forward and aimed a cannon at his own house, touched the fuse and sent a thunderbolt of war crashing through it, an act which fired the whole army with a fighting patriotism.

John Jay, a Mason, received the very

gratifying testimony of the respect and confidence of President Washington, who in the organization of the departments, requested him to select any office he might prefer and was accordingly appointed the first Chief Justice of the United States.

John Rutledge and Oliver Ellsworth, illustrious Chief Justices of the United States Supreme Court, were Masons.

John Blair, the first man appointed by Washington to the Federal Judiciary and later a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, was the first Grand Master of Masons of Virginia.

John Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States, the greatest jurist of the greatest tribunal the world has known, who interpreted and vitalized the organic law of the United States and imparted immortality to the Constitution, was Grand Master of Masons of Virginia.

Edmund Randolph, Washington's Attorney—General and later Secretary of State, in succession to Thomas Jefferson, was Grand Master of Masons of Virginia.

Robert Morris, Superintendent of Finance, the financial backbone of the Revolu-

tion and Haym Salomon, the Polish Jew broker in Front Street, Philadelphia, who gave all told $658,000 to the cause of freedom, were Masons.

Isaac Moses, who so worded the petition of the New York merchants to the legislature, that on November 18, 1784, that body passed an act levying specific duties and establishing on this same day the first custom house in America, was a Mason.

Alexander Hamilton, the genius of the Revolution, whom John Marshall ranked next to Washington, Hamilton, first Secretary of the Treasury, founder of our national financial system, who touched the corpse of public credit and it sprang upon its feet—the greatest statesman America ever produced, was a brother of the Mystic Tie.

James Madison, whose master head gave our Federal Constitution many of its wisest provisions, especially those relating to religious liberty and the disestablishment of the State Church, was a Mason.

Of the fifty-five members of the Constitutional Convention, presided over by

Washington, thirty-five were lawyers, and not more than five who were not Masons.

The proposition that the leaders in the great work of launching this new Nation were the foremost men in the Masonic Fraternity, is an established fact—from the laying of the plans for the Revolution in Green Dragon Inn, Boston, by Samuel Adams, Josiah Quincy, Joseph Warren, James Otis and Paul Revere, all through the developments of the principles of Free Masonry, which resulted in the Declaration of Independence and the formulation of the Constitution of the United States, through eight years of stress and struggle, from Lexington to Yorktown, which made Independence a glorious reality, down to the inauguration of George Washington, the Mason, as President of United States, whose oath of office was administered on the Bible brought from St. John's Lodge No. 1, New York City, administered by the Chancellor of New York, Robert R. Livingston, then Grand Master of Masons of New York and at a time when the Governor of every one of the thirteen states was a Mason—all of which is proof conclusive

that if it had not been for the Masons this Republic might never have been born.

What more reasonable than to believe that the fathers and founders of this new Nation, who had been taught the rights of man at Masonic altars, should make their principles the political creed of peerless America, where creation was new-born, a haven afforded to the quickening principle of human liberty and a temple reared to the God of enfranchised and redeemed conscience.

Despots everywhere have feared Masonry, just as liberal government always have favored it. The French Revolutionists received their ideas of freedom in Masonic Lodges and though we cannot apologize for the horrible tragedies of that period, the people of France had been ground under the heels of despotism for centuries, liberty was demanded and secured through the sacrifice of blood—possibly the only way it could ever have been secured. The motto of the French Revolution, "Liberty, Fraternity and Equality" was taken direct from the Masonic ritual.

The Grand Master of Cuba was executed

for the offence of his office. An entire Lodge of Havana was imprisoned for the crime of performing the last rites at the grave of a departed brother. That was before the American flag began its tour around the world, under the administration of Brother William McKinley. The timely arrival of American troops in Porto Rico saved an entire lodge of San Juan from execution.

There has not been a great movement for civil and religious liberty for upwards of two hundred years that has not had behind it the loyal support of the Masonic Fraternity.

Garabaldi and Massini, Masons, freed their beloved Italy. Portugal, the world's latest republic is the child of Masonry.

As Americans, we stand in the presence and feel the power of our Masonic fathers. The promise of progress is that we are thrilled by their examples.

Masons, Americans, give your country a true manhood! This is true patriotism. Be intense Americans. Band together to pay the debt you owe to your fathers and solemnly swear that you will give this

country to your children as you got it from your fathers, forever free and forever American!

Push Americanism to the front. America can serve the world only as it is American.

In the three million square miles of our territory, from the pine forests of Maine to the Golden Gates, and from the Lakes on the North to the Gulf in the South, there is room only for Americans. Subordinate every thing to America. Whether native born or naturalized, swear, that while life's blood warms your throbbing veins, that there shall be nothing here but Americanism.

Everything foreign, man, school, church, must be completely absorbed and absolutely assimilated by republican principles and American purpose, or else shall be openly cast out as un-American and as treason to the flag.

The American chariot is drawn by two stalwart steeds—personal liberty and popular education. All the world may ride with us, if they wish, but the driving will be done by Uncle Sam.

There must not be the least taint of Danube, Rhine, Seine, Thames, or Tiber, in the distilled water beneath the American sky-dome.

One country for all—America for man in his intelligence, for man in his love of liberty, for man, whosoever he is and whencesoever he cometh; one standard of loyalty for all; one school system for all, supported by the State and forever free from all sectarian control; no public money, or public property for any sectarian purpose whatsoever; the absolute separation of church and state; the abandonment of every pretension to special privileges; free speech, free press and a free conscience; the ballot box, through an educational qualification and an extension of the naturalization period, made sacred as the ark of the American covenant; one type of citizenship; one national language for all; one flag, the best that ever floated in the breeze, the highest emblem of authority in the land, Old Glory the Stars and Stripes for all; one sovereign for all, that sovereign the will of the people, exercised according to the spirit and purpose of the American Constitution and to

crown all, the election to public office of men only who are imbued with these fundamental American ideals!

The corner stone of our country was laid and its foundation planted by our fathers through long years of privation and war. To save it from destruction and to preserve it to us, rivers of blood have been poured out and countless millions of treasure spent. Don't forget Plymouth Rock and the landing among the savages. Don't forget our fathers bleeding feet at Valley Forge. Don't forget Washington's prayer by the camp-fire. Don't forget the hunger, the cold, the thirst, the long march and the fever hospital. Don't forget the fearful charge up Bunker Hill. Don't forget Lexington and Yorktown. Don't forget Independence Hall and King's Mountain. Don't forget the Lake where Perry fought and the Hampton Roads where the Cumberland went down. Don't forget Fort Donaldson, Chattanooga, the Wilderness of Virginia, Winchester, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Sharpsburg, Gettysburg, the capture of New Orleans, Vicksburg, Mobile and

Fort Fisher. Don't forget the resistless march from Atlanta to the Sea, the capture of Savannah and Charleston. Don't forget Appomattox Court House, the ninth of April 1865, and the glad shout that rang out to earth and sky, proclaiming the glorious ending of the long and bitter struggle. And for the sake of all this sacrifice, the tears and blood, the widowhood and orphanage, promise God once again that you will keep America American!

The Masonic Forum.

One of the most interesting features in connection with this lecture is Dr. Peters' custom of answering questions put to him at the close of the lecture, answers which greatly add to its educational value. The following questions and answers are a fair indication of the range of subjects discussed.

Question: What is your view of the origin of our name—Free and Accepted Masons?

Answer: When the barbarians overran Rome, Constantinople became the Capitol of the new civil, religious and political empire, attracting to itself the learning of Rome, Athens, Alexandria and other countries, thus becoming the world's intellectual camping ground; hence the master-architects, painters and skilled artisans came to its doors and from thence went out, over all Continental Europe, a body of workmen and artificers to found and build Cathedrals, and in these Cathedral cities the

educated men gathered to pursue their studies and advance the cause of learning.

The majority of the people, though deeply religious, were densely ignorant and as the skilled workmen and artificers were loath to be governed where they settled, by laws enacted by these people, who were little better than semi-barbarians, they obtained by special edict permission to maintain a government among themselves according to the laws of Constantinople, hence they were called "Free" Masons.

These Masonic Lodges or trades unions sprang up in all the great cities of Europe and with the revival of learning, men of other professions were admitted as honorary members and these were designated by the name of "Accepted" Masons.

Question: Why was it that Masons generally held their pre-Revolutionary Communications in Taverns?

Answer: Prior to the revival of Masonry in England, in 1717, when Masonry ceased to be operative, became speculative

and symbolic, forming the Free and Accepted Masons of modern times, the Masonic Guilds were really trades-unions, regulating the relation between employer and employed. After this time, these Masonic Lodges became once again secret, moral, and fraternal organizations, the speculative side developed more and more, and unlike the Guilds of London, whose members had become politicians, Masonry once again became the propagator of morality, founded on the belief in God and the Bible, proclaiming for its standard the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man.

For a long time Masons continued to meet as they had done before that period, in taverns, which had meeting rooms where the public met for the discussion of public affairs and private grievances.

The Grand Lodge of England was organized in 1717, by four Lodges, whose respective meeting places were the Goose and Gridiron Ale House, the Crown Ale House, the Apple-Tree Tavern, and the Rummer and Grapes' Tavern. (The first

totaly abstinence society on record, the Xerophagists, men who do not drink, was formed by the Masons in Italy, 1757 years ago, under which name they met to avoid the Pope's Bulls).

The first Lodge in Paris met in a public house and the custom was long followed in other countries. The first Masonic Hall in the world was erected by the Lodge at Marseilles, in France, in 1765. The first Free Masons' Hall in England was dedicated May 23, 1776. Early American Lodges held their meetings in Taverns, which, however, were not saloons of modern times. The first Masonic Temple in America was built in Boston in 1832.

Question: What do you mean by the Ancients of York who were working in the Colonies?

Answer: Ancients was the name assumed by those Masons who, in 1738, seceded from regular Grand Lodge of England and who at the same time bestowed upon the adherents of that body the title

of Moderns. The dissensions between the Grand Lodge at London and that at York were decided, the latter gaining over many influential persons in England and were even recognized by the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland. The Ancient York Lodges, as they were called, greatly increased in England and became so popular that a majority of the Lodges and Provincial Grand Lodges established in this country during the eighteenth century derived their warrants from the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons. In 1833 the two bodies consolidated under the title of the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of England.

Question: Was Thomas Paine a Mason?

Answer: Thomas Paine did with his pen for American Independence as much as any other man of the Revolution did with his sword. But he was not a Mason. He was in sympathy with our Fraternity and wrote an ingeneous essay on "The Origin of Free Masonry," with no other

knowledge of the Institution than that derived from the writings of others, some of questionable authority. He sought to trace Masonry to the Celtic Druids.

Question: How do you explain John Quincy Adams's virulent opposition to Free Masonry in the latter years of his life?

Answer: In answer to an inquiry from a person in New York whether he was a Mason, Mr. Adams replied that "he was not and never should be,"—words which it was believed prevented his election to a second term as President of the United States. His competitor, Andrew Jackson, a Mason, was elected. Politicians led him to believe that the Masons were responsible for his defeat and hence his ill-will to our Fraternity, expressed in a serious of abusive letters, directed to leading politicians and printed in the public journals from 1831 to 1833, and which appeared in 1847, in a book of 248 pages, under the title, "Letters on the Masonic Institution."

In 1826, opposition to Free Masonry, soon after the disappearance of William Morgan, took the form of a political party, the object of which was professedly to down the Masonic Institution, as subversive of good government, but really for the political aggrandizement of its leaders, who used the opposition to Free Masonry merely as a stepping stone to their own political advancement, until finally in 1831 the Anti-Masonic party nominated William Wirt and Amos Ellmaker as its candidates for President and Vice-President. The electoral vote of Vermont was the only State that voted for them and this signal defeat was the death blow of the party.

William Morgan, in 1826, published a pretended exposition of Free Masonry, after which he disappeared and the Masons were charged by their enemies with having killed him. There are various myths of his disappearance and subsequent resurrections in other countries. There never was any evidence of his death that could be admitted in a court. Morgan was of questionable character and dissolute habits and

his enmity to Free Masonry was due to the Fraternity at LeRoy, New York, refusing to admit him in their Lodge and Chapter.

Question: What record is there of words written or spoken by Washington with reference to our Fraternity?

Answer: In writing to the officers of St. Andrew's Lodge at Newport, R. I. in 1791, he uses this language: "Being persuaded a just application of the principles on which Free Masonry is founded, must be promotive of virtue and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interests of this Society and be considered by them a deserving brother."

In 1797, in reply to an affectionate address from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, he said: "My attachment to the Society of which we are members will dispose me always to contribute my best endeavors to promote the honor and prosperity of the Craft."

In November 1798, thirteen months before he died, he made this explicit declara-

tion of his opinion of Masonry: "So far as I am acquainted with the doctrines and principles of Free Masonry I conceive them to be founded in benevolence and to be exercised only for the good of mankind. I cannot therefore, upon this ground withdraw my approbation from it."

In becoming the Charter Master of Alexandria Lodge, in 1788, after he had won the Independence of the Nation he showed in action louder than words what he thought of the Craft.

Lodge No. 39 at Alexandria had hitherto been working under the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and when it transferred its allegiance to Virginia it was designated Lodge No. 22.

The first Lodge chartered in Virinia was St. John's at Norfolk in 1741, under warrant of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. December 22, 1758, the Royal Cross Lodge at Norfolk was chartered by the Ancient York.

In 1777 there were ten Lodges in Virginia, and on the sixth day of May the Grand Lodge adjourned, recommending

Washington as the most proper person for Grand Master of Masons of Virginia, an honor he declined.

The suggestion of a Grand Master of the United States was made February 7, 1780 by the Virginia Masons in an address to the Grand Masters in the various States, proposing the establishment of one Grand Lodge in America and nominating George Washington as General Grand Master. Washington himself was averse to the proposition and Massachusetts questioning the wisdom of such a movement, declined to come to any decision and the question was dropped.

Question: As there were many Masons among the British officers, are there any instances where the Masonic relation was of any service to Americans in distress?

Answer: Cases might be multiplied indefinitely to prove that the signs and tokens of Free Masonry, which speak a universal language and act as a passport to the attention and support of the initiated in all parts of the world have stayed

the uplifted hand of the destroyer, softened the asperities of tyrants, broken down the barriers of political animosity and sectarian prejudice. The most noted instance in the American Revolution where the Masonic relation afforded relief was the case of Israel Israels, who was at one time Grand Master of Pennsylvania.

Israels was a Quaker, though his name is decidedly Jewish. During the Revolution he resided on the Delaware, near Wilmington. With his brother he had determined to take up arms for freedom. But it was decided that lots be cast to determine which one should stay at home to protect the women. The lot of a soldier fell to the younger brother, Joseph.

The mother with her family had moved to Philadelphia, as her home at Newcastle, Delaware, was exposed too much to the vicissitudes of war. During the occupancy of Philadelphia by the British, the Israels' family endured severe hardships and Israel watched over them with incessant anxiety. Knowing that his mother and those under her roof were in want he de-

termined to reach them. One of his Tory neighbors procured for him the countersign and eluding the vigilance of the sentinel, he made his way to his mother's house, which he found in possession of the British soldiers who had quartered themselves upon the family. His brother was there, too, on a secret visit. The loyalist who had given the sign betrayed the secret of Israels' expedition. He and his brother were seized and carried on board the frigate, "Rosebuck," lying in the Delaware, a few miles from Wilmington, opposite his home, there to be tried as a spy.

Being one of the "Committee of Safety" Israels' position was peculiarly perilous. His fate was decided before the trial. The testimony of his Tory neighbors was overwhelmingly against him. Several were ready to swear that while the loyal population of the country had willingly furnished their share of provisions needed by the ships of war, he had been heard to say repeatedly that he would "sooner drive his cattle as a present to General Washington, than receive thousands of dollars in British gold for them."

The British Commander upon receiving this information ordered a detachment of soldiers to go to Israels' meadows, in full view of the frigate and seize and slaughter his cattle, then feeding there. His nineteen year old wife, saw her husband and brother taken to the frigate and watched the movements of the plunderers. Guessing their purpose, she made for the meadows in hot haste, and with an eight year old boy began to drive out the cattle. The soldiers threatened to shoot her if she did not get out. The heroic woman cried: "Fire away!" The cowards fired several shots, not one hit her. She drove her cattle to safety and won the admiration of the men for her heroic daring.

The trial of her husband took place. Asked by a sympathetic soldier if he was a Free Mason, Israels so declaring himself, was informed that the officers were Masons and that a Communication was to be held on board the vessel that night. He made a manly defense and at the opportune time gave the Masonic sign of distress. Not only did the haughty bearing of the officers

change, but the Tory witnesses were reprimanded for seeking to injure an upright man. Presents were given to his heroic Hannah, while he and his brother were set at liberty.

But for the talismanic power of Masonry in all probability both brothers would have been shot. It is doubtful whether there has ever been devised by man a system that has the power over the human mind in the whole range of its passion that Masonry has so often, so instantaneously, so magically and so humanely exerted.

On the field of battle, in the solitude of the uncivilized forest, or in the busy haunts of the crowded city, the principles of Masonry have made men of the most hostile feelings, most distant relations and most diversified convictions rush to the aid of one another and given satisfaction in the fact that they have been able to afford relief to a brother.